

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01
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PARIS FOR HARTMAN

EO 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, CY, TU, GR, AU
SUBJECT: CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS IN VIENNA: OPENING SESSION:
MARCH 31

1. THERE FOLLOWS THE TEXT OF UN SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM'S
OPENING STATEMENT AT THE CYPRUS TALKS IN VIENNA, MARCH 31.
WALDHEIM DELIVERED HIS REMARKS BEFORE NEWSMEN AND THEN,
IN ACCORDANCE WITH PROCEDURES PREVIOUSLY AGREED UPON WITH
ONAN AND PAPADOPOULOS, THE SESSION WAS CLOSED TO THE PRESS
AND PUBLIC.

2. HIS BEATITUDE ARCHBISHOP MARKARIOS AND HIS EXCELLENCY
MR. DENKTASH IN NICOSIA, FIRST IN THE PRESENCE OF MY
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SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE, MR. PEREZ DE CUELLAR, AND THEN
ON 12 FEBRUARY UNDER MY AUSPICES, HAVE CHANGED THE
POLITICAL ATMOSPHERE SURROUNDING NEGOTIATIONS ON THE
CYPRUS QUESTION. I WISH TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO
PAY A WARM TRIBUTE ONCE AGAIN TO THE TWO LEADERS, BOTH
OF WHOM MADE GREAT EFFORTS AND, BY THESE EFFORTS, OVER-
CAME MANY OF THE DIFFICULTIES WHICH STOOD IN THE WAY

OF RESUMING THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS.

AS I INDICATED IN NICOSIA IN FEBRUARY, I CONSIDER THAT WE HAVE NOW REACHED A POINT WHERE MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS ON THE VARIOUS ASPECTS OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM SHOULD BECOME POSSIBLE. THE BASIC ELEMENTS OF SUCH NEGOTIATIONS ARE CONTAINED IN THE FOUR GUIDELINES WHICH THE TWO LEADERS AGREED UPON LAST MONTH AND WHICH HAVE BEEN ENTRUSTED FOR IMPLEMENTATION TO THE INTER-LOCUTORS NOW PRESENT AT THIS TABLE.

THESE GUIDELINES COVER THE PRINCIPAL ASPECTS OF AN AGREED, PEACEFUL, DURABLE AND JUST SOLUTION OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. THEY INCLUDE AS WE ALL KNOW, THE TERRITORIAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUES. IT IS MY UNDERSTANDING THAT BOTH SIDES ARE AGREED TO DISCUSS ALL OF THESE ASPECTS DURING THE FORTHCOMING MEETINGS. IT IS FURTHER AGREED BY ALL CONCERNED THAT A SOLUTION OF THESE VERY COMPLEX PROBLEMS MUST OF NECESSITY RESULT IN A PACKAGE DEAL, AND THAT THEREFORE AN AGREEMENT ON ANY ONE ITEM WOULD ONLY BECOME FINAL IN THE FRAMEWORK OF AGREEMENT ON ALL.

IT IS ALSO MY UNDERSTANDING THAT EACH SIDE WILL BE PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE THE PROPOSALS SUBMITTED BY THE OTHER IN A SUBSTANTIVE WAY WITH A VIEW TO RECONCILING THE PRESENT DIFFERENCES IN THE POSITIONS OF THE TWO SIDES. INDEED, I AM CONVINCED THAT THIS IS THE ONLY BASIS ON WHICH WE CAN HOPE TO MAKE CONCRETE PROGRESS.

THESE MEETINGS IN VIENNA WILL GO ON UNTIL 7 APRIL. AFTER THAT, TALKS WILL CONTINUE IN NICOSIA IN ORDER TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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TAKE UP VARIOUS POINTS IN GREATERDETAIL PRIOR TO A FURTHER ROUND IN VIENNA. IT IS ESSENTIAL THAT WE NOW EMBARK ON A CONTINUOUS AND PROGRESSIVE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE ULTIMATE OBJECTIVE OF AN AGREED SETTLEMENT OF THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. I HAVE NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT THE DIFFICULTIES OF THIS TASK, BUT I AM CONVINCED THIS IS BY FAR THE BEST AVAILABLE MEANS OF MAKING REAL PROGRESS.

THE GUIDELINES AGREED UPON ON 12 FEBRUARY PROVIDE US WITH A SOUND BASIS FOR A NEW AND DETERMINED EFFORT. I HOPE THAT IN THE MEETINGS HERE WE SHALL BE ABLE TO MAKE SIGNIFICANT STEPS FORWARD TOWARDS AN AGREED SETTLEMENT. OBVIOUSLY THIS WILL BE A LONG AND ARDUOUS PROCESS, IN WHICH WE CANNOT EXPECT QUICK RESULTS. WHAT WE HAVE TO DO HERE IS TO LAUNCH A PROCESS OF MEANINGFUL AND SUBSTANTIVE NEGOTIATION WHICH WILL ENABLE US TO ESTABLISH THE FRAMEWORK OF AN AGREEMENT WITHIN A REASONABLE TIME.

THIS IS A CRUCIAL MOMENT. I THEREFORE APPEAL TO

BOTH SIDES TO MAKE A DETERMINED EFFORT TO NARROW THE
GAP BETWEEN THEIR POSITIONS. IT IS CLEAR TO ME, AND
I AM SURE TO ALL CONCERNED, THAT THERE IS NO VIABLE
ALTERNATIVE TO A MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION FOR THE
CYPRUS PROBLEM. THE TIME TO NEGOTIATE SUCH A SOLUTION
IS NOW. FOR THE GOOD OF ALL THE PEOPLE OF CYPRUS,
AND FOR THE SAKE OF THE BROADER PEACE, I HOPE THAT WE
WILL SEIZE THE OPPORTUNITY WHICH IS NOW PRESENTED TO US.
END TEXT.MEEHAN

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